Training Programme for Personnel and Scientists going abroad

1507. SHRI JAGDISH PRASAD MATHUR: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any programme for technical and non-technical personnel going on deputation to Indian missions abroad, to impart them training on Indian culture, languages, values, an Indian philosophy, if so, the details thereof;

(b) if not, by when such an essential training programme will be offered with details of the duration, curriculum and institution which conduct such a training programme; and

(c) whether there is any special training programme for Scientists going on deputation to Indian missions abroad to have overview of policy and development of Science and Technology in India?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SMT. MARGARET ALVA): (a) and (b) No such training is being arranged. As the number of such officials is very small and they proceed abroad at varying points of time organised training programmes on Indian culture and philosophy are not practicable.

(c) The scientists being deputed receive a briefing on the relevant aspects.

Action against PSU's for not signing MOU(S)

1508. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to refer to answer to Unstarred Question 139 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 29th August, 1991 and state:

(a) whether Government propose to sign MOUs with every PSU, if so, the details thereof; and

(b) what action Government propose to take against PSUs which are not willing to sign MOUs and continue to make heavy losses?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI P. K. THUNGON): (a) Yes, Sir. In due course Government propose to sign MOUs with all PSUs. During the year 1991-92 Government proposes to sign MOUs with about 70 PSUs as compared to 23 last year.

(b) Since an MOU has been adopted as a policy instrument for determining the relationship between the Government and a PSU irrespective of the fact whether it is loss or profit making, the question of willingness or otherwise to sign an MOU does not arise.

Market intervention operations in edible oils

1509. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the plan of Government about market intervention operations in edible oils; and

(b) in what manner Government propose to keep the prices of edible oils at November, 1990 levels?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED): (a) The Government has asked National Dairy Development Board (NDDB) to conduct Market Intervention Operations (MIO) for a period of five years from April, 1989. NDDB has been paying remunerative prices to farmers under its procurement operations. Further, to provide edible oils to consumers at reasonable prices, the NDDB undertook retail sale of 'DHARA' brand edible oils in small packs. NDDB proposes to increase the sale of 'DHARA' in future.

(b) The Government have taken the following steps to contain the price rise in edible oils:—

(1) Stock limits of oilseeds and oils by dealers, processors and

manufacturers of edible oils/vanaspati have been reduced.

(2) Permission for usage of 20 per cent expeller mustard oil in the manufacture of vanaspati has been withdrawn w.e.f. 1-8-91.

(3) RBI has frozen cash credit limits for working capital.

(4) Basket for usage of rebateable oils have been expanded by the addition of solvent extracted sesame oil and salseed fat.

(5) For augmenting the availability and acceptability of edible oils, blending of one conventional edible oil with one refined nonconventional oil (like soyabean, cottonseed and safflower) has been permitted.

(6) Government has directed all State Governments and UTs to have strict surveillance on the availability and prices of edible oils and also to undertake dehoarding operations.

(7) Edible oils have been exempted from the recent freight hike as propsoed in Railway Budget for 1991-92.

(8) Vegetable oils have been exempted from the levy of excise duties altogether.

Small scale units in consumer goods market

1510. SHRI S. K. T. RAMACHANDRAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state whether the small scale industry units will be encouraged to widen its scope to meet the needs of consumer goods in India?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI P. J. KURIEN): As per Gazette Notification No. S.O. 232 (E) dated 2nd April, 1991 Govt. have *inter alia* enhanced the limit of investment in fixed assets in plant and machinery of small scale industrial undertaking from Rs. 35 lakhs to Rs. 60 lakhs and that of ancillary industrial undertaking from Rs. 45 lakhs to Rs. 75 lakhs. In the policy measures for promoting and strengthening small, tiny and village enterprises laid in Parliament on 6-8-91, a number of facilities and incentive to small scale industrial units have been mentioned. These measures are intended to encourage and widen the scope of small scale industrial units including those manufacturing consumer goods in India.

पूर्व प्रधान मंत्री द्वारा आम चुनाव के दौरान भारतीय वायु सेना के वायुयानों, हेलीकॉप्टरों का प्रयोग

1511. **श्री अजीत जोगी :**
कुमारी आलि या :

क्या रक्षा मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) अभी हाल ही में सम्पन्न हुये आम चुनाव के दौरान पूर्व प्रधान मंत्री तथा उपप्रधान मंत्री द्वारा चुनाव प्रचार हेतु कितने घंटों के लिये भारतीय वायुसेना के वायुयानों और हेलीकॉप्टरों का प्रयोग किया गया;

(ख) इन वायुयानों तथा हेलीकॉप्टरों के प्रयोग के परिणामस्वरूप भारतीय वायुसेना को कुल कितनी धनराशि दी जानी थी;

(ग) क्या यह राशि वसूल कर ली गई है;

(घ) यदि नहीं, तो इस संबंध में हुए विलम्ब के क्या कारण है; और

(ङ) इस धनराशि की शीघ्र वसूली के लिये क्या कदम उठाये गये हैं ?

पैट्रोलियम और प्राकृतिक गैस मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री तथा रक्षा मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री का अतिरिक्त प्रभार (श्री एस० कृष्ण कुमार) : (क) और (ङ)